



# Fall Weather Safety



**Wildfire – Drought – Hurricanes – Wind –  
Early Season Winter – Flood – Fog**



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# Wildfire Safety



## Preventing wildfires...

- Wildfires are most often started by lightning or humans.
- When camping, stay with your fire when lit, and make sure it is fully extinguished before leaving.
- Be smart and safe when burning debris. Keep the fire small and don't burn on windy days.
- Properly extinguish and dispose of all smoking materials.



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# Wildfire Safety



## Before a Wildfire

- Know where you can find temporary housing for your family and pets in case you must evacuate.
- Plan a primary evacuation route and identify a secondary route in case the first is blocked.
- Select building materials and plants that are fire resistant.
- Create a family emergency plan and make a list of items you'll need to pack for evacuation.



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# Wildfire Safety



## If Told to Evacuate:

- Follow instructions from local officials.
- Don't deviate from the identified evacuation route. Other roads may be blocked.
- If you have time to gather belongings, do so quickly. If you do not have time, leave and head for safety immediately.
- Contact your family and let them know you are okay.



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# Wildfire Safety



## If you encounter a wildfire

- Drive or walk away from the smoke and flames immediately.
- Do not stop to watch or take pictures.
- Call 911.



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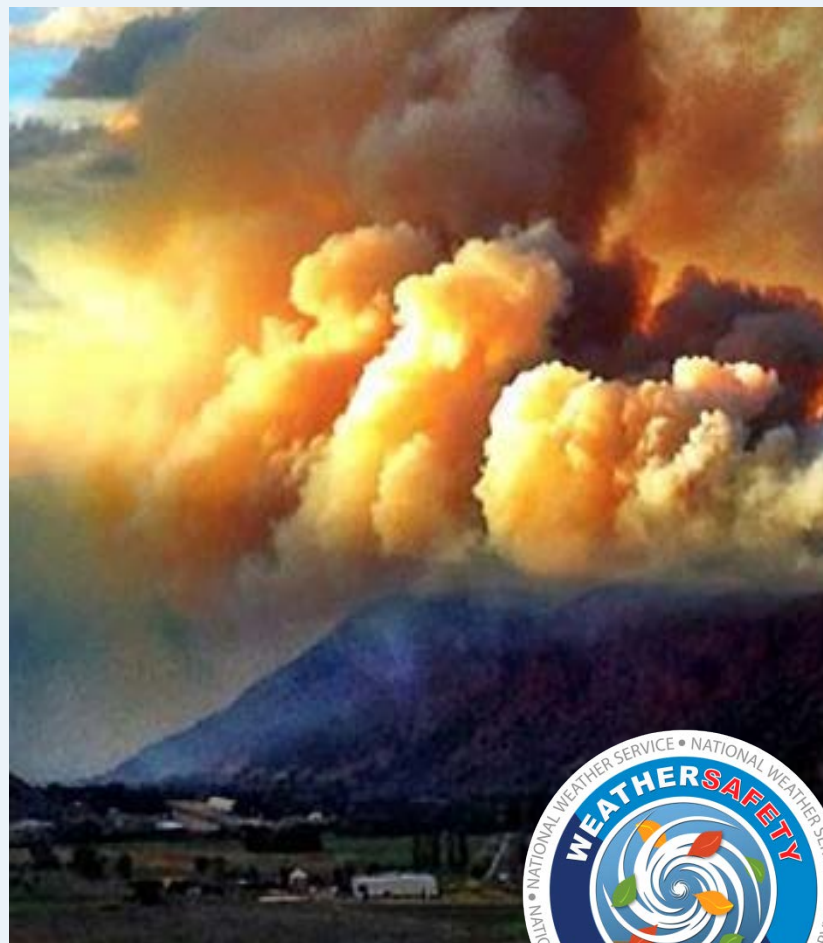


# Wildfire Smoke Safety



## When smoke is impacting your area:

- Keep doors and windows closed.
- Keep air conditioner intakes closed and the filter clean.
- Seek shelter elsewhere if it's too warm to stay indoors with the windows closed.
- Don't add to indoor pollution by burning candles or smoking.
- Follow evacuation orders.



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# Drought Safety



## When water is scarce, do this outside:

- Water your lawn less frequently. If you must water your lawn, do so in the early morning/late evening.
- Mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation.
- Fix leaky sprinklers and adjust them so they only water your lawn (not the house or sidewalk).
- Don't wash your car unless absolutely necessary.



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# Drought Safety



## When water is scarce, do this inside:

- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and shave.
- Install low flow showerheads.
- Take shorter showers.
- Fix leaky faucets and toilets.
- Only wash full loads of laundry.
- Use excess clean water for plants.



[weather.gov/drought](http://weather.gov/drought)



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# Hurricane Safety



## Preparing Your Family for a Hurricane

- Know if you live in a hurricane storm surge evacuation area.
- Know your home's vulnerability to flooding, wind, and storm surge.
- Understand NWS warnings and watches.
- Put together an emergency supply kit. (Don't forget supplies for your pet.)
- Create a family emergency plan.



[weather.gov/  
hurricanesafety](https://weather.gov/hurricanesafety)



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# Hurricane Safety



## Preparing Your Home for a Hurricane

- Remove all lawn furniture & items that will blow around.
- Board up your windows with plywood or approved shutters.
- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Get cash
- Reinforce your garage door.
- Secure your boat.



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# Hurricane Safety



## Before Evacuating for a Hurricane

- Have an evacuation plan that includes where you will go and what to pack.
- If you have a pet, identify shelters where they are accepted.
- Listen to evacuation orders, be prepared, and evacuate early. Don't wait until the last minute.
- If you have time, turn off the gas, electricity, and water. Unplug your appliances.



[weather.gov/  
hurricanesafety](https://weather.gov/hurricanesafety)







# Hurricane Safety



## When Evacuating for a Hurricane

- Take only what you need. Be sure to remember your medications and identification!
- Follow roads emergency workers are recommending, even if there is traffic. Other routes may be blocked. Drive carefully.
- Contact your family.



[weather.gov/  
hurricanesafety](http://weather.gov/hurricanesafety)





# Wind Safety



## Wind Warnings, Watches and Advisories

- Take Action: A ***High Wind Warning*** is issued when damaging or life threatening winds are occurring or will occur soon.
- Be Prepared: A ***High Wind Watch*** is issued when it's possible for damaging or life threatening winds to occur.
- A ***High Wind Advisory*** is issued when winds are strong enough to cause difficulty for those outside but likely won't cause widespread damage.



[weather.gov/wind](https://weather.gov/wind)

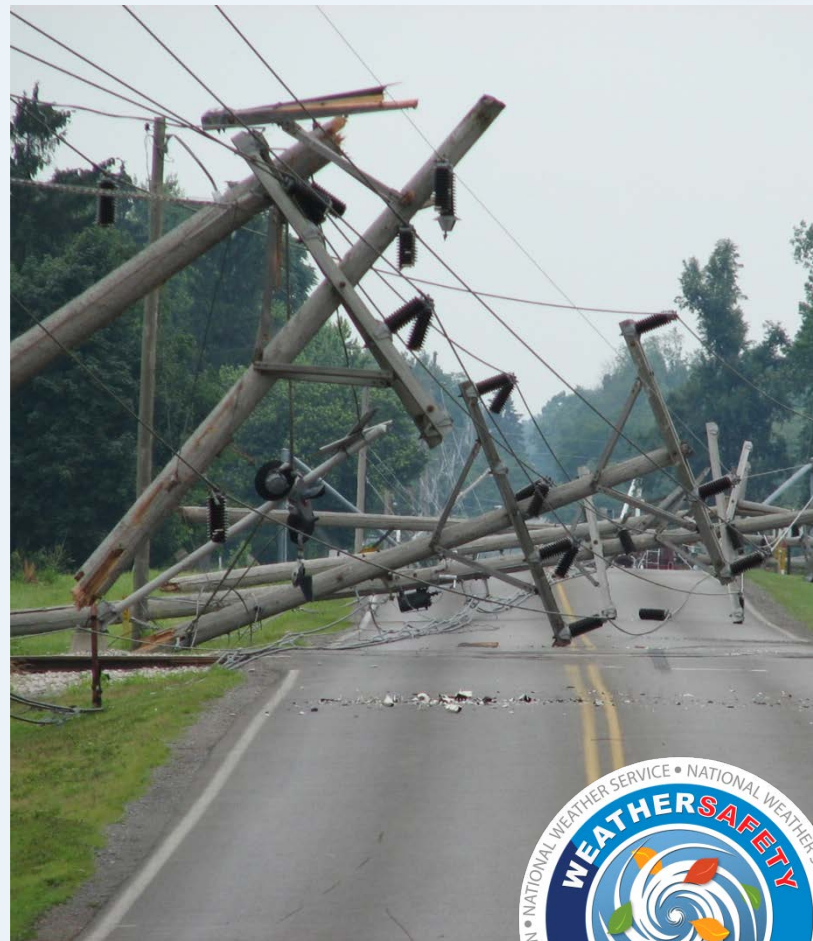


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## Straight Line Winds

- Straight line winds are strong damaging winds that have no rotation.
- Typically associated with severe thunderstorms and squall lines.
- Wind speeds can reach up to 125mph and create large damage paths equal to that of a tornado.



[weather.gov/wind](http://weather.gov/wind)







# Wind Safety



## STRAIGHT LINE WINDS

- ✓ Straight line winds can exceed 100 mph, and affect large areas.
- ✓ Strong winds can knock over semi-trucks, trees and powerlines.
- ✓ Stay indoors away from windows.
- ✓ Avoid trees, power lines, and objects that could blow around.
- ✓ If driving, slow down and keep two hands on the wheel.



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# Wind Safety



## Wind from Powerful Storm Systems

- Created by a strong pressure gradient.
- Can knock down trees and power lines, and blow over trailers and trucks.
- Makes driving hazardous. Keep two hands on the wheel and avoid large vehicles such as semi-trucks.



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## Dust Storms

- Dust storms are caused by wind blowing over a dry region.
- Blowing dust can reduce visibility to nearly zero.
- Dust storms can last mere minutes or up to an hour.
- Seek shelter in the event of a dust storm.
- If driving, pull over as soon as possible, turn off your lights and keep your seatbelt buckled.



[weather.gov/wind](http://weather.gov/wind)







# Wind Safety



## What to do when a High Wind Warning is issued...

### If at home:

- Seek shelter inside, away from windows.

### If outside:

- Seek shelter immediately.
- If you cannot find shelter, avoid trees, power lines, and objects that could blow around. Stay away from the side of the road.



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# Wind Safety



## What to Do When Driving:

- Slow down!
- Keep two hands on the wheel.
- Stay away from trucks, buses, and vehicles towing trailers.
- Watch for flying debris and downed power lines and branches.



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# Winter Weather Safety



## Freezing Rain/Sleet

- Make sure your trees are trimmed and away from power lines.
- Have an emergency kit in case the power goes out.
- Avoid driving. If you must drive, drive slowly and give extra space to the cars in front of you.
- The NWS will issue a Freezing Rain/Sleet Advisory or an Ice Storm Warning.



[weather.gov/winter](http://weather.gov/winter)



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# Winter Weather Safety



## Be Prepared for Early Season Winter Storms

- Winterize your car with snow tires and a winter driving safety kit.
- Restock your emergency kit with extra batteries, enough food, etc.
- If you have a generator, make sure it is in working order and review safety. NEVER run a generator in an enclosed space such as a garage.



[ready.gov/winter-weather](https://ready.gov/winter-weather)



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[www.weather.gov/safety](https://www.weather.gov/safety)



# Winter Weather Safety







# Flood Safety



## Before a Flood

- Learn whether your home, school or place of work is at risk of flooding.
- Find alternate routes to important locations.
- Make a family communications plan.
- Follow evacuation orders.
- Keep an eye on the forecast by visiting [weather.gov](http://weather.gov).



[weather.gov/flood](http://weather.gov/flood)



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[www.weather.gov/safety](http://www.weather.gov/safety)





# Flood Safety



## During a Flood

- Never drive or walk into flood waters.
- If told to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Get to higher ground.
- Get information from local TV/radio or your mobile phone.



[weather.gov/flood](http://weather.gov/flood)



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# Flood Safety



## After a Flood

- Avoid damaged areas and flood waters.
- Heed road closed and other cautionary signs.
- Wait for the “all clear” to enter a flood damaged structure.
- Contact your loved ones via text or social media to keep phone lines clear.



[weather.gov/flood](http://weather.gov/flood)



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# Flood Safety



## Turn Around Don't Drown®

- It is never safe to walk or drive through floodwaters.
- It only takes six inches of swift moving water to knock an adult off their feet and sweep them away.
- 12 inches of water will lift most small cars.
- Two feet of water will lift most large vehicles.



[weather.gov/flood](http://weather.gov/flood)



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# Fog Safety



## Driving in Fog

- Slow down when you encounter fog.
- Use your low beam headlights.
- Do not change lanes or pass other vehicles unless absolutely necessary.
- If you must pull off on the side of the road, turn off your lights and use your parking break to avoid being hit by cars who may not realize you've pulled over.





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